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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Fleming et al.

Application No. Not yet assigned

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USE

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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Label No. EV331581428US in an envelope addressed to: MAIL. STOP PATENT APPLICATION, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 on the dates shown below.

Attorney for Applicant(s) William D Vooran

Date Mailed February 17, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)

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Listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449 and enclosed herewith are several English-language documents. Also enclosed is a copy of EP 0 531 714 B1, which was published in German. The claims of EP 0 531 714 B1 are also provided in English. Applicants respectfully request that these documents be listed as references cited on the issued patent.

Applicants filed this Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits. As a result, no fee should be required to file this IDS.

The filing of this IDS shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, prior art or otherwise material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

Respectfully submitted,

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